

**From:** Steve T  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 11:26pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir/Madam.

My name is Steve Tripp, and I live in a small town in Iowa and work at a local ISP. I will not pretend to know the legal minutia of the case, but have been keeping abreast of the situation through online news and newsgroups. I have used Microsoft products at work, not because they are the best or even good, but because there is no other choice. The software market did not start out as a monopoly, and the best man did not win. But as someone who works with computers every day, and would even if I did not get paid for it, I know who the losers are...we are.

What truly amazes me is watching supposed experts debate whether or not Microsoft as a monopoly has hurt the industry. As a Network/Internet technician in Algona, Iowa I deal with Microsoft products every day at work, but will not have them in my home. I know they have hurt the industry, and I know their products are not the best that could be on the market. The Microsoft stranglehold on OS and application software needs to be relaxed, and Microsoft will not do so on its own.

Thank you for your time.

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